

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 02500 091114Z
ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 MC-02 ACDA-07 OMB-01
TRSE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 DODE-00 L-03 /047 W
-----091348Z 093770 /43

R 090820Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7958
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
COMIDEASTFOR
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 2500

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, KU, UK
SUBJECT: GOK PURCHASE OF PATROL BOATS

REF: KUWAIT 1572

1. BRITISH AMBASSADOR LAMB INFORMED ME MAY 8 THAT UK SEEMED TO HAVE INSIDE TRACK ON SALE OF TEN PATROL BOATS TO GOK FOR KUWAITI NAVY. DESPITE WHAT HE CHARACTERIZED AS OVERCONFIDENCE ON PART OF FRENCH IN CONNECTION WITH THIS SALE, HE REPORTED WITH SOME SATISFACTION THAT HE HAD WORKED VERY HARD OVER PAST MONTHS WITH GOK DEFENSE MINISTER TO PROMOTE SALE OF BRITISH BOAT TO BE CONSTRUCTED BY VOSPER-THORNEYCRAFT. HE CLAIMED THAT HIGHER DEFENSE COUNCIL HAD AUTHORIZED DEFENSE MINISTER TO EXPLORE PURCHASE WITH ABOVE-MENTIONED COMPANY WITH REQUIREMENT THAT HE RETURN FOR FINAL APPROVAL WHEN DETAILS OF NEGOTIATION HAD BEEN CONCLUDED. DEFENSE MINISTER HAD REQUESTED VOSPER-THORNEYCRAFT TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES WHO ARRIVED MAY 7 FOR THIS PURPOSE.

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2. BRITISH AMBASSADOR SAID THAT, WHILE IT SEEMED LIKELY THAT BRITISH FIRM WOULD OBTAIN THIS CONTRACT, CRAFT TO BE BUILT FOR KUWAITIS WILL BE A "NATO" BOAT. KUWAITIS HAD ASKED FOR A GERMAN MOTOR, FRENCH MISSILE (EXOCET) AND THOMPSON FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM (FRENCH), AS WELL AS US ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN BUILT BY EMERSON.

3. COMMENT: WHILE NO WEAPON SALE TO KUWAITIS IS CERTAIN
UNTIL CONTRACT HAS BEEN SIGNED, IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT
BRITISH BID WILL BE SELECTED. HOWEVER, SEVERAL VERY
COSTLY ITEMS WILL BE INSTALLED IN THIS BRITISH BOAT SO THAT
NUMBER OF COUNTRIES CAN OBTAIN SOME SATISFACTION FROM SALE.
IN ANY EVENT, IT APPEARS THAT GOK PATROL BOAT WILL BE A
MONUMENT TO KUWAITI FOREIGN POLICY OF EVENHANDEDNESS.
MAESTRONE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY SALES, NAVAL SHIPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KUWAIT02500
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770162-0908
Format: TEL
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770579/aaaacqku.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 KUWAIT 1572
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2598440
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOK PURCHASE OF PATROL BOATS
TAGS: MASS, KU, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e07c4698-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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